

Minutes
Catawba County Board of Commissioners
Regular Session, Monday, June 20, 2005, 7:00 p.m.

Appointments

Community Service Block Advisory Board	13	06/20/05
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Awards

Distinguished Service Award – Dr. William Crawford	13	06/20/05
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Budget

Budget Ordinance	16	06/20/05
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Budget Revision	15	06/20/05
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Ordinance

Proposed Voluntary Agriculture District Ordinance	13	06/20/05
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Budget Ordinance	16	06/20/05
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Resolution

In Support of Cigarette Tax	23	06/20/05
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Sheriff

E-Citations	16	06/20/05
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The Catawba County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the 1924 Courthouse, Robert E. Hibbitts Meeting Room, 30 North College Avenue, Newton, North Carolina.

Present were Chair Katherine W. Barnes, Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker, Commissioners Glenn E. Barger, Lynn M. Lail and Barbara G. Beatty.

Also present were County Manager J. Thomas Lundy, Assistant County Manager Joellen Daley, Assistant County Manager Lee Worsley, County Attorney Robert Oren Eades, Attorney Debra Bechtel and County Clerk Barbara E. Morris.

1. Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.
2. Commissioner Glenn Barger led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
3. The Invocation was offered by Commissioner Lynn Lail.
4. Vice-Chair Dan Hunsucker made a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 6, 2005. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Recognition of Special Guests.
Chair Barnes said the Board was pleased to have such a large number of people present for the meeting.

6. Public comment for items not on the agenda. None.
7. Presentations.

Chair Barnes presented a Distinguished Service Award to Dr. William Crawford, Superintendent of Newton-Conover City Schools. Dr. Crawford was honored for his service to Catawba County for eight years. Dr. Crawford is leaving Catawba County to take a position in Virginia. Dr. Crawford said it had been his pleasure to serve in Catawba County and said he was much richer for having served in the community.
8. Appointments.

Commissioner Barger recommended the reappointment of Anne Wepner for a second term representing the Elected Officials/Social Services Board member category and the appointment of Kelis Trapero for a first term to replace Andrea Pavon to the Community Service Block Grant Advisory Board (CSBG). The terms will for three years starting 07/01/05 and expiring 06/30/08. Chair Barnes stated these appointments came in the form of a motion and the motion carried unanimously.
9. Departmental Reports.
 - a. Planning:

County Manager Tom Lundy presented a summary of the ordinance for the establishment of a Voluntary Agricultural District Program and an agricultural advisory board. He stated that most people in the audience were familiar with the provisions of the ordinance as it has been recommended by staff. County Manager Lundy noted that a lot of work had gone into the preparation of the ordinance which had culminated in a presentation and a public hearing at which time concerns were voiced regarding two provisions – condemnation and the extraterritorial jurisdiction. The Board had requested additional work be done on the ordinance and it was reviewed as to other boards and commissions in the County, what duties they had, what authority the Board of Commissioners had, comparison of the ordinance with what other counties had done and changes were made and a meeting conducted on June 9, 2005 which was hosted by the Farm Bureau and all changes were reviewed. County Manager Lundy said his assessment was that there was understanding of the changes and there was still a concern regarding the condemnation procedures and the extraterritorial jurisdiction authority.

County Manager Lundy clarified that the purpose of the ordinance was to acknowledge farming activities as part of the County's heritage, to work to promote a continuation of farming activities and the preservation of farmland in the future. He stated there are a series of requirements to qualify as a voluntary agricultural district – 20 contiguous acres or two tracts of land within a mile of each other that form the 20 acres; has to be eligible for the present use tax value but does not have to be in the program and there are a series of other requirements for consideration as a voluntary agricultural district. One of the benefits of the proposed ordinance is the establishment of voluntary agricultural district board, which would be a platform for the farming community to provide input to the Commissioners and among the duties would be the review and approval of applications, to advise the Board of Commissioners on projects, programs or issues that affect agriculture, to make recommendations as far as amendments to the ordinance and study additional methods of farmland preservation. There would be a 9 member board appointed by the Board of Commissioners, five of whom would have to be actively engaged in farming. The Board would try to have representatives from each of the small area plans and the ordinance provided that there be nominations made by Soil and Water Conservation and by the Farm Bureau. Terms would be three years, after the initial set of terms and the maximum terms served would be three continuous terms. Another benefit would be the public notice – the requirement for signage denoting the voluntary agricultural districts and produce and have available on the County's GIS system a separate overlay which would show all of the approved voluntary agricultural districts. There would be a map as well as a notice of the agricultural districts posted in the Register of Deeds office to notify the public and for any new

subdivision plats within a half mile of an approved voluntary agricultural district would have a requirement that agriculture district be shown on the subdivision plat.

County Manager Lundy pointed out that the condemnation provision was not included in the proposed ordinance because they are provided for in the NC General Statutes and application within the cities extraterritorial jurisdictions was also not included in the proposed ordinance. He stated that it was recommended that the Board send a letter to the municipalities and city councils asking them to consider some kind of signage in their ETJ to denote the agricultural farming within the ETJ.

County Manager Lundy said the staff's recommendation to the Board was that they believed the ordinance met the intent to acknowledge the County's farming heritage and to promote the farming activities and the letters being sent to the cities would encouraged them to consider action to put up signage to recognize farming.

Commissioner Barger asked how ETJs are extended. County Manager Lundy replied that NC law states that when a city is created, typically there is a one mile perimeter which is established which is designed for the city to control in terms of zoning and subdivision with the idea that the city will eventually grow into that one mile. In some cases the legislation established in the city has a different provision – and Mr. Lundy gave the example of the establishment of Hickory where it had a two-mile ETJ. He said once the ETJs were established, they were set unless the County does not have countywide zoning and subdivision control – if the county does not have this, then the cities can continue to expand their ETJ boundaries. Chair Barnes noted there was a unique situation with Hickory and the Catawba Springs area and said they did not have ETJ beyond the actual designation of Catawba Springs. County Manager Lundy noted that this was the case of a satellite annexation and with satellite annexations, an ETJ boundary is not drawn around it.

Chair Barnes then asked if any farmers would like to speak regarding the ordinance.

Mr. Ira Cline came forward and stated he was president of the Catawba County Farm Bureau. He said he appreciated all the hard work that the county employees had put into the ordinance as well as the people in the community who had been involved. He said things had changed quickly in the last two weeks. He said he thought they would just ask for a postponement at this meeting and wait to get what came out of the General Assembly. Mr. Cline said a few of them had to make a decision, one way or the other, and they had chosen to suggest to the County Commissioners that the ordinance be scrapped 100% because they did not believe they would get the participation, the County would not get the benefit that should be received from the cooperation of the farmers and that the program would fall on its head and there would be no participation. He asked the Commissioners to kill the ordinance completely and see what the General Assembly does and if they didn't do what needed to be done, the agricultural community and the Catawba County Farm Bureau would go on record with their concerns.

Chair Barnes asked Mr. Cline to be more specific regarding what they were looking for from the State. He said it was his understanding they were not adding anything to the existing statutes – Chair Barnes asked if he was speaking of House Bill 607 – Mr. Cline said he was unsure but said if the county's ordinance was passed at this meeting, then the General Assembly may come up with new legislation and it would then have to be all redone. He said he did not see everyone going through the effort unless they came up with something that was more beneficial to everyone. Chair Barnes asked if having the signage and GIS layer was not beneficial – and said she thought it was a huge benefit to the farmers. Mr. Cline admitted that was a benefit and it would be brought back up when the ordinance was brought up again.

Chair Barnes asked if anyone else would like to speak and Mr. Hood came forward to say that Attorney Steve Woods had advised them that the ordinance, as drafted, would really not benefit them and get farm participation based on his experience with other counties. Mr. Hood said having the ordinance without participation was of little value.

Chair Barnes then stated to the Commissioners that they had before them the recommendation to adopt the ordinance as it had been amended. She said in her view it did accomplish two points – setting up the advisory committee and creating a GIS layer that, with

the signage, would notify the public that they are in an agricultural district. She said she thought the signage would be a very positive point.

Vice-Chair Hunsucker said he appreciated all the time the farming community and the staff had put into coming up with something that would be beneficial but he had received a lot of calls from the farmers and they did not believe there would be participation. He said, in light of those facts, and the fact that the farmers did not see the ordinance as being beneficial to them, he recommended waiting before adopting the ordinance. It was clarified that the issue could not be tabled as that required a definite time for it to be brought back up. Chair Barnes said she believed they had addressed the issues and it would be difficult to bring it up in the near future. Commission Barger said he agreed with Vice-Chair Hunsucker after he had talked with a number of people in the audience and he said he appreciated their input and noted they had concerns that were not addressed in the ordinance. Commissioner Barger said he believed they should abide by what the farmers were requesting and vote the ordinance down. Commissioner Lail said she appreciated the work of everyone who had participated in the process and also appreciated the fact that the farmers themselves had come forward and said they did not believe the ordinance would accomplish what they wanted and she wondered if they should put an ordinance in place which would require county staff to administer when no one was really participating, thus wasting staff's time and she said she was inclined to agree with Commissioners Hunsucker and Barger. Commissioner Beatty said she concurred with Commissioners Hunsucker, Barger and Lail and said if the ordinance was not going to work, it did not need to be on the books.

Commissioner Barger made a motion to vote the proposed ordinance down. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Finance:

Rodney Miller, Finance Director, presented a request for a budget revision to recognize additional EMS revenue collections. He said the budget revision was necessary in a good way. The County contracts with EMS Management Systems & Consultants, Inc. to provide routine billing, bill processing and fee collection services for ambulance charges and account management. The initial budget set all ambulance fees at \$172,000. The new estimate is that the County will receive approximately \$2.5 millions in revenue. By contract the County is to pay 8% to EMS Management and because of the increase in actual revenue a budget revision in the amount of \$50,000 is required to cover the 8% due to EMS Management.

County Manager Lundy asked if this was on the expense side and Mr. Miller said this would be added to both revenue and expenditures. He said the County would net \$100,000 – of which only \$50,000 would be budgeted to pay the contract. Commissioner Beatty asked if this billing had been attempted in house. Mr. Miller said years ago it had been done in house but it was found to be more cost effective, both on the expense and revenue sides, to contract the service out. Vice-Chair Hunsucker asked what the difference was between what the County was able to collect in-house versus the contracted collection. Mr. Miller said the County was collecting in the high 70% and the contracted service was collecting at 80-81%. Attorney Bechtel interjected that this company worked for approximately 100 counties and have a staff of over 50 people and stayed current with all insurance and Medicaid issues. Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion to approve the budget revision as follows:

Supplemental Appropriation:

Finance Department		
Other Professional Services	110-170060-856900	\$50,000
Ambulance Charges Revenue	110-260150-671201	\$50,000

The motion carried unanimously.

c. Sheriff's Department

Jennifer Mace presented the Electronic Citation Security Agreement. She stated this was an interagency agreement that Catawba County would sign with the Administrative Office of the Courts. It would allow officers to issue traffic citations directly from their vehicles rather than doing them on paper and then later entering them in the system. There would be no user fees for the County because data is being transmitted to the Administrative Office of the Courts. The County has requested 10 printers which are available from the Administrative Office of the Courts. These would be at no cost to the County and the Sheriff's office's existing laptop computers would be used. If additional printers were needed, they would cost \$450. Chair Barnes asked if there was any ongoing licensing fee and Ms. Mace said no because the data is being supplied to State. County Manager Lundy said action was delayed on this issue two weeks ago because fees were unclear. The contract has been clarified and indicates there will be no fees.

Commissioner Beatty made a motion to enter into the subject contract. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Attorneys' Report. None.

11. Manager's Report.

- a. County Manager Lundy presented the official adoption of the Catawba County Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 which is done by ordinance. The budget has revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$194.5 million and a tax rate of .49 per hundred evaluation. Vice-Chair Hunsucker said he wanted to reiterate that Catawba County still has the 14th lowest tax rate in 100 counties and the 3rd lowest in the 23 urban counties. Chair Barnes said the Board had tried to address the findings of FORESIGHT and there has been an increased Medicaid projection of 14% which equated to about \$7.2 million for state portion and 5.5 cents of the tax rate and the commissioners continue to try to work with legislators to at least cap the Medicaid expenditures. Vice-Chair Hunsucker pointed out that if the legislature capped that expense at the current rate the County would save over \$15 million over a five year period.

Vice-Chair Hunsucker made a motion to adopt the budget ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Catawba County:

SECTION I

Budget Adoption, 2005/06

The following budget with anticipated fund revenues of \$194,522,770 and departmental expenditures of \$194,522,770 (see pages 14 through 19 of the budget document for breakdown) is hereby adopted in accordance with G.S. 159 by the County of Catawba for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2005, and ending June 30th, 2006, and the same is adopted by fund and department.

The following procedures, controls, and authorities shall apply to transfers and adjustments within the budget except for the budgets of the Reinventing Departments as shown in Section II.

- A. **Transfers Between Funds:** Transfers of appropriations between funds may be made only by the Board of Commissioners with the exception of merit, reclassification funds, and contingency which the County Manager has the authority to transfer.
- B. **Transfers Between Departments:** Transfers of appropriations between departments in a fund and from contingency shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners or may be approved by the County Manager in conformance with the following guidelines:

1. The County Manager finds that they are consistent with operational needs and any Board approved goals.
 2. Inter-department transfers do not exceed \$50,000 each.
 3. Transfers from Contingency appropriations do not exceed \$50,000 each unless the County Manager finds an emergency exists.
 4. All transfers between departments and funds are reported to the Board of Commissioners no later than its next regular meeting following the date of the transfer.
- C. **Transfers Within Departments and Activities:** Department Heads may transfer line item appropriations between activities within the departments under their jurisdiction with the approval of the Budget Manager.
- D. **Transfers Within Activities in a Department:** Department Heads are hereby authorized to transfer line item appropriations within activities under their jurisdiction with the approval of the Budget Manager.
- E. **Transfers of Appropriations from Contingency or Departments for Real Estate Transactions:** Transfers of appropriations from Contingency or departments may be made by the County Manager in order to secure options, pay deposits, or pay other necessary expenses related to real estate transactions approved by the Board of Commissioners.
- F. **Transfers of Capital Projects Appropriations:** Transfers of appropriations between projects within a capital project fund shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners, except that such transfers may be approved by the County Manager when they are necessary to expedite planned work and when they do not adversely affect any approved project. All manager-approved transfers shall be reported to the Board of Commissioners no later than its next regular meeting.
- G. **Transfers of Appropriations From Special Departmental Expense and Revenue Contingencies:** Transfers of appropriations may be made by the Budget Manager from special departmental expense and revenue contingency accounts that have been set aside to accommodate mid-year adjustments for allocations from outside agencies. The budget for such special departmental contingency expenditures will not be used until revenues are received and the related funds are transferred out of the contingency accounts to an appropriate line item.

SECTION II

Amendment to Procedures, Controls, and Authorities for Reinventing Departments

The following procedures, controls, and authorities shall apply to transfers, personnel, and adjustments within the budget for the Reinventing Departments, as determined by the County Manager:

- A. As part of this process, the County's fund balance has been maintained by taking into account the average amount of unexpended funds turned back at the end of each year and making a one time reduction in each Reinventing Department's allotment by that amount.
- B. The Board of Commissioners will appropriate funds for the Reinventing Departments based on approved outcomes to be achieved during the fiscal year.
- C. Department Heads are hereby authorized to transfer appropriations between activities or from special department contingencies under their jurisdiction. Requests for transfers from the General Fund contingency must be approved by the County Manager. The budget for such special departmental contingency expenditures will not be used until revenues are received and the related funds are transferred out of the contingency accounts to an appropriate line item.

- D. Department Heads within the Reinventing Departments are hereby authorized to reallocate existing positions between activities under their jurisdiction.
- E. Departments will be allowed to retain all unexpended allocations and/or revenues as defined by the County Manager.
- F. Reinventing Departments may create or abolish positions which impact the outcomes approved by the Board of Commissioners and within available revenues upon summary approval of the Board of Commissioners. Approval will come at the next regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners' meeting and will be attached and approved as part of the minutes.

SECTION III

Tax Levy Rate

A tax rate of \$0.490 per \$100 of assessed valuation is hereby levied for Fiscal Year 2005/06, all of which is levied in the General Fund. No discounts will be allowed for early payment of taxes.

The following rates are levied for volunteer fire districts:

<u>Volunteer Fire Department</u>	<u>Tax Rate Per \$100 Valuation</u>	
Bandys		\$0.0390
Catawba		
		\$0.0700
Claremont		\$0.0700
Conover Rural		\$0.0500
Cooksville		\$0.0550
Denver		\$0.0450
Fairbrook		\$0.0257
Longview		\$0.0568
Maiden		\$0.0312
Mountain View		\$0.0425
Newton		\$0.0513
Oxford		\$0.0600
Propst		\$0.0650
Sherrills Ford - Terrell	\$0.0500	
St. Stephens		\$0.0500
Viewmont		\$0.0248

SECTION IV

Hospital Fund

The Catawba Valley Medical Center Board of Trustees is hereby required to submit a monthly copy of its financial statements to the County Finance Director that will include a budget to actual comparison of all expenses and revenues.

The Hospital maintains a balance of not less than \$4 million with the County, in the Hospital Capital Reserve Fund, to finance and construct major Hospital capital projects. This Fund is intended to be used primarily to finance and construct major Hospital capital projects. However, in an emergency situation, with written request of the Hospital, the County may, in its discretion, permit amounts on deposit in the Fund to be extended for any lawful purpose including payment of operating expenses of the Hospital. As long as a \$4 million balance in the Fund is maintained, monthly depreciation payments from the Hospital are not required. Monthly payments of \$50,000 will be required any time such \$4 million balance is not maintained.

Catawba Valley Medical Center is public non-profit hospital and an entity or component unit of Catawba County Government. The County owns the assets but the Hospital is not a line department of the County and therefore is not included in the County budget. The Hospital is authorized to operate as an enterprise fund.

SECTION V

Schools' Current Expense

The allocation of general revenues for the schools' current expense is \$1,194 per pupil based on the average daily membership of K-12. This amount includes \$45 per pupil to operate the following inter-school system programs-- Catawba County Bus Garage, Catawba Valley High School, Conover School for Exceptional Children, the Newton-Conover ACT Program, and the Community Schools Program.

It is recommended that the three county school systems appropriate from their estimated fund balance an amount not to exceed 5% of the current expense fund for the purpose of establishing a contingency account.

In accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act, each Board of Education is required to submit to the Board of Commissioners, as soon as adopted, a copy of the School Board's budget resolution. The school finance officer will submit a quarterly statement of the financial condition of the Administrative unit to the Board of Commissioners.

SECTION VI

Capital Projects and Grants

Project Managers will be designated on a project-by-project basis for all County construction projects and the procedures set forth in "Architectural Procedures – Catawba County", adopted by the Board of Commissioners shall be used to coordinate the efforts of all parties involved in a project. Any changes in the estimate, as a result of bids or otherwise, shall be reported by the Project Managers and carry his or her recommendation of approval to the Board of Commissioners prior to the advertising of bids. When compiled and approved by user agencies, all projects must conform to the Catawba County Design and Construction Specifications.

In accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act each school system will submit to the County Budget Manager detailed project sheets for each capital project included in this budget on sheets as specified in the "Uniform Budget" format, by January 1, 2005.

The General Capital Projects Fund, the Hospital Construction Fund, the Water and Sewer Construction Fund, the School Capital Outlay Fund, the School Bond Capital Projects Fund, and the CDBG Scattered Site Housing Fund are hereby authorized. Appropriations made for the specific projects or grants in these funds are hereby appropriated until the project is completed.

Any grant or capital project budget previously adopted, the balance of any anticipated, but not received, revenues and any unexpended appropriations remaining on June 30th, 2005, shall be reauthorized in the 2005/06 budget unless a specific new budget has been prepared.

SECTION VII

Emergency Approvals, Schools

Emergency transfers to and from the School Capital Outlay Fund shall be in accordance with the School Budget and Fiscal Control Act.

SECTION VII

Annual Financial Reports

All agencies receiving County funding are required to submit an audit report by December 31st, 2005. Approved payments may be delayed pending receipt of this financial information.

SECTION IX

Fees and Licenses

Charges for fees and licenses by Catawba County Departments or Agencies shall be in accordance with the fee policy. Fee changes to be adopted by the Board of Commissioners are set forth in the attached Schedule A.

SECTION X

Per Diem Pay

The Board of Commissioners and members of County boards are authorized to receive per diem pay as follows:

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board – Chair, \$75 per meeting; Members, \$50 per meeting
Board of Adjustment – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Board of Commissioners – Chair, \$900 per month; Members, \$700 per month; In-County Travel Allowance, \$250 per month
Board of Elections – Members, \$50 per meeting; \$65 for Election Day
Hospital Board of Trustees - Chair, \$75 per meeting; Members, \$50 per meeting
Mental Health Board – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Planning Board – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Public Health Board – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Social Services Board – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting
Subdivision Review Board – Chair, \$50 per meeting; Members, \$35 per meeting

SECTION XI

Personnel

- A. Salaries - Salaries for Fiscal Year 2005/06 are based on the Fiscal Year 2005/06 pay plan for Catawba County which is adopted as a part of this budget and is effective July 1st, 2005. The pay plan includes a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) on July 1st, 2005. Funds are included for a 1% Performance Pay based on an annual performance rating of Meets Expectations, and funds are included for up to 70% of the workforce to receive, based on an annual performance rating of Exceeds Expectations, a \$500 flat amount to be added to base salary.
- B. Merit Payments - Funds are allocated in the budget to provide merit payments. The County Manager is instructed to prepare a plan for the administration of merit payments for exceptional performance to be effective during the Fiscal Year 2005/06 and to communicate said policy to all department directors and administer the plan.
- C. Travel Allowance - The travel allowance rate will be according to the IRS reimbursement rate.
- D. Special Payment - Positions that require specialized skills may be compensated by a special payment. This payment will only occur while the employee is serving in that capacity. This special payment is not considered a part of the annual base pay for classification. The amount of special payment is to be approved by the County Manager upon a recommendation by the Personnel Director.

SECTION XII

Budget Policy for State and Federal Fund Decreases

It will be the policy of this Board that it will not absorb any reduction in State and Federal funds; that any decrease shall be absorbed in the budget of the agency by reducing personnel or department expenditures to stay within the County appropriation as authorized.

This policy is extended to any agency that is funded by the County and receives State or Federal money. This shall remain in effect until otherwise changed or amended by the Board of Commissioners. The County Manager is hereby directed to indicate this to each of the agencies that may be involved.

SECTION XIII

Reappraisal Fund

In accordance with the provisions of G.S. 153A-150, an appropriation of \$448,199 will be made from the General Fund to the Reappraisal Fund for the purpose of providing funds for the next reappraisal.

SECTION XIV

Fiscal Control Act

The Budget Manager and the Finance Director are hereby directed to make any changes in the budget of fiscal practices that are required by the Local Government and Fiscal Control Act. This shall extend to permitted consolidations of funds and "Single Tax Levies" permitted in the Fiscal Control Act.

- A. As provided by G.S. 159-25 (b), the Board has authorized dual signatures for each check or draft that is made on County funds. The signatures of the County Manager, Finance Director, Assistant County Manager, and Assistant Finance Director shall be authorized signatures of the County.
- B. Operating funds encumbered on the financial records of the County as of June 30th, 2005, are hereby reappropriated to this budget.
- C. The Board authorizes the appropriation of all Fund Balances earned by the Reinventing Departments as determined by the County Manager and as a result of the County's annual audit of June 30th, 2005.
- D. The Board also authorizes (as is the practice) one principal account as depository for all funds received by the Finance Director from any source. Current accounting techniques shall be used to assure that all funds will be properly accounted for in the financial records of the County.

SECTION XV

Authorization to Contract

The County Manager or his designee are hereby authorized to execute agreements, within funds included in the Budget Ordinance or other actions by the Board of Commissioners, for the following purposes: 1) Form grant agreements to public and non-profit organizations; 2) Leases of routine business equipment; 3) Consultant, professional, or maintenance service agreements; 4) Purchase of supplies, materials, or equipment where formal bids are not required by law; 5) Applications for and agreements for acceptance of grant funds from Federal, State, public, and non-profit organization sources, and other funds from other government units, for services to be rendered which have been previously approved by the Board; 6) Construction or repair projects; 7) Liability, health, life, disability, casualty, property, or other insurance or performance bonds other than similar items required by the Sheriff or Register of Deeds; and 8) Other administrative contracts which include agreements adopted in accordance with the directives of the Board of Commissioners.

SECTION XVI

Authorization to Award and Reject Bids

Pursuant to General Statute 143-129, the County Manager is hereby authorized to award formal bids received in amounts less than \$55,000 within the following guidelines: 1) bid is awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; 2) sufficient funding is available within the departmental budget; and 3) purchase is consistent with the goals and/or outcomes of the department. The County Manager shall further be authorized to reject any and/or all bids received if it is in the best interest of Catawba County. A report shall be made to the Catawba County Board of Commissioners of all bids awarded or rejected under this section and entered in the minutes of its formal sessions.

SECTION XVII

911 Service Charge

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 62A-4 and Catawba County Code of Ordinances Sec. 14-177, a monthly charge in the amount of \$0.85 is hereby imposed upon each exchange access facility subscribed to by all

telephone subscribers whose exchange access lines are in the area served or which would be served by Catawba County Enhanced 911 Service. The said monthly charge shall be uniform and shall be charged to each exchange access facility regardless of the type of said exchange facility used.

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 62A-23 and Catawba County Code of Ordinances, a monthly Wireless Enhanced 911 service charge in the amount of \$0.80 is hereby imposed on each Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) connection. The service charge shall have uniform application and shall be imposed throughout the State.

This ordinance is adopted this 20th day of June 2005.



Katherine W. Barnes, Chair



J. Thomas Lundy, County Manager

SCHEDULE A

Below are the fee changes that have been adopted as a part of this budget. All fees are effective July 1st, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

LIBRARY

Copy/Print Charges..... \$0.20 per copy
Late Fee for Books..... \$0.20 per day

PUBLIC HEALTH

Clinic Services

Vaccines

Pneumococcal Vaccine \$24.00
Vaccine Admin – 2 or more injections \$14.00
Varicella..... \$72.00

CPR Training \$15.00
First Aid..... \$7.00

PLANNING

Voluntary Agricultural District Application \$50.00

PERSONNEL

Blood Glucose (one touch)..... No charge if enrolled in Wellbucks and Diabetes Mgmt.
PSA..... No charge if enrolled in Wellbucks
Workers Compensation Screening..... \$85.00

SOLID WASTE

Scrap Tires

Tires without proper documentation, Tires that have been buried, Tire stockpiled prior to January 1,1994, and Out of State Tires \$72.00 per ton

TECHNOLOGY

GIS Fees

D. CD Rom Based Licenses Products

MoCAT - Lite	\$250.00
Update	\$100.00

(includes Application with Parcels, Structures, and Hydro)

Custom Maps

Color Printer

Smooth Paper 8 ½ x 11\$2.00

Smooth Paper 11 x 17\$3.00

Laser Printer – Aerial Map\$0.75

Digital Data Pricing (data not licensed)

Image Data – Digital Ortho Photos

Seamless Countywide Mosaic, Mr. Sid Format.....\$300.00

Vector Data

Available Layers (Individual Tiles) \$5.00 per layer / tile

Available Layers (Countywide)\$250.00

(Parcels, Structures, Contour Lines, Soils, Centerlines, Zoning, etc.)

District Layers (Countywide).....\$100.00

(School Districts, Voting Districts, Floodplain, etc.)

Street Atlas

Other Governmental Agencies\$15.00

Non-Governmental Agencies.....\$30.00

UTILITIES AND ENGINEERING

Erosion Control

Acreage requiring a formal Erosion Control Plan = 1 acre

Plan Review	\$200.00, \$150 per acre
Re-inspection Fee (required after violation)	\$125.00
Project Management Fee	\$50.00

(Fee for sites not requiring a formal Erosion Control Plan, but found to be in violation of the North Carolina Sedimentation Pollution Control Act of 1973. Staff will recommend adequate sediment control measures and inspect until site is stabilized.)

- b. County Manager Lundy presented a resolution in support of a Cigarette Tax to Support County Medicaid Relief. The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners had asked that counties consider the adoption of a resolution urging the State to increase the state cigarette tax in order to support Medicaid relief. The resolution asked that the State increase the cigarette tax and use that to begin a phase out of Medicaid – an entire phase out – versus the House proposal to cap the expense. The House's proposal included in their budget would only give Catawba County \$113, 000 in relief. Mr. Lundy recommended the adoption of the resolution and sending it to the County's legislative delegation. Commissioner Barger pointed out that NC is the only state with that expense passed onto the counties. Commissioner Barger made a motion to support the resolution and send it to our representatives. Vice-Chair Hunsucker asked if this just applied to cigarettes and not all tobacco products and Mr. Lundy said the resolution said cigarette tax and he said he would find out if that was not the case. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO: 2005-14

A RESOLUTION REGARDING INCREASING THE STATE CIGARETTE TAX TO SUPPORT COUNTY MEDICAID RELIEF

WHEREAS, only the states of New York and North Carolina require county governments to participate in all the costs of Medicaid, and

WHEREAS, the state of New York recently took action to lower the costs of Medicaid to its counties, and

WHEREAS, Medicaid costs for counties are far outstripping county governments' ability to provide for those increases through the traditional source of flexible revenue – i.e., the property tax, and

WHEREAS, Catawba County budgeted \$6,350,000 in 2004-05 for Medicaid which equates to 5 cents on the property tax rate, and

WHEREAS, North Carolina counties have no opportunity under federal and state law to control Medicaid expenditures, and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoking contributes to health problems that increase Medicaid costs, and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina has the lowest cigarette tax in the nation, and

WHEREAS, an increase in the state cigarette tax could yield significant funds to reduce the county share of Medicaid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Catawba County Board of Commissioners hereby urges the General Assembly of North Carolina to enact a significant cigarette tax increase with a substantial portion of that tax to be used to begin a phase-out of required county contributions to fund Medicaid costs.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be presented to members of the General Assembly.

Adopted this 20th day of June, 2005.

Katherine W. Barnes, Chair
Catawba County Board of Commissioners

12. Other items of business. None.

13. Adjournment. Commissioner Beatty made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Katherine W. Barnes, Chair
Board of Commissioners

Barbara E. Morris, County Clerk